

Wins First Award at C.N.P.A. Convention; Publisher Gets Trophy

TORRANCE HERALD

25th Year—No. 4

ESTABLISHED 1914 — 12 PAGES — TWO SECTIONS

TORRANCE, CALIF., THURSDAY, JANUARY 26, 1939

PER COPY 5c

Renew Attack on El Prado Trees

Removal Petition Revived

El Prado's 28-year-old eucalyptus trees are again in jeopardy. The petition, circulated by John Young of Gramercy avenue for their destruction was removed from obscurity in the city archives Tuesday night by motion of Councilman Tom McGuire and handed to the newly-formed City Planning Commission.

At the same time, Young indicated that he would seek to have at least two of the towering trees bordering El Prado park removed. He asked the council to cut down those on his property there. Councilman George V. Powell's motion that the street superintendent remove the two trees "when he has time" did not receive a second.

The high school Parent Teachers' Association was the latest to appear as defending the El Prado trees. In a letter addressed to the council Tuesday night, Mrs. Ruth Woodcock, president of the unit, stated:

"Recalls Previous Action. The high school P.T.A. takes this means of notifying you of our attitude in regard to the proposed removal of the eucalyptus trees from El Prado street. We feel that to do so would destroy the beauty of one of our loveliest streets. Also it would establish a precedent for removal of other trees throughout the city. Therefore we urgently request that you refuse to allow such removal."

Councilman McGuire, in making the motion to hand the controversial issue over to the Planning Commission, of which he is the head, stated that Young asked for such action. During the discussion that followed, Councilman Powell recalled the city board's action several months ago on Wallace Gilbert's request for the removal of all eucalypti on the south side of the street between Arlington and Manuel avenues. At that time, he said, the council agreed to the removal on condition that homes were built on the vacant property. This particular realty deal did not reach a conclusion.

"There have been other occasions," (Continued on Page 2-A)

Businessmen Asked to Let Customers Park

Suggested by City Councilman Tom McGuire, who said that the congested parking condition on the business streets was partially caused by the practice of merchants and their employees storing their machines at the curbs in front of their places of business, an effort will be made by the Torrance Retail Merchants' association to eliminate this all-day parking situation.

McGuire asked George Peckham, president of the association, Tuesday night to suggest to his members that they and their employees park on side streets rather than in the immediate business area. Peckham said that the matter had been discussed at a number of merchants' meetings in the past and that he would take it up with the membership again.

Jitterbugs Swing It For Paralysis Fund Friday

Ever see a Torrance Jitterbug in action? If you haven't, then you missed a real treat! But you can see several hundred of them swinging it at the Civic Auditorium tomorrow, Friday, night when the doors will be thrown open to the public at 25¢ a head. Hereofore, the Friday night festivities have been confined to students with adult spectators being confined to a group of chaperones. But Friday night all net proceeds from the dance will be turned over by the Coordinating Council to the "Fight Infantile Paralysis" campaign. For that reason folk are invited to attend as spectators. In addition to the regular jitterbug contest there will be other entertainment features and the Coordinators invite all residents of Torrance and vicinity to "audit" the show.



PROUD OF THEIR AWARDS... Here are four newspaper publishers who were selected for honors at the 51st annual convention of the California Newspaper Publishers' Association late last week in Fresno. They are, left to right: Grover C. Whyte, Torrance Herald, best newspaper promotion; William S. Kellogg, Glendale News-Press, best news picture; Neal Van Sooy, Azusa Herald, best editorial; Paul Jenkins, El Centro Press, best newspaper promotion; Grover C. Whyte, Torrance Herald, best special edition, and William S. Kellogg, Glendale News-Press, best news picture. Kellogg was elected president of the state publishers' association and Van Sooy, first vice-president.

Hollywood Man Facing Morals Charge Here

Accused of molesting three Torrance girls, eight, nine and ten years old, and of vagrancy, Charles Hagerstrom, 45-year-old Hollywood film laboratory worker, was arrested on a warrant Tuesday night at his home, 1133 Wilcox Place, by Officer Ernest Hagen.

According to a statement given police here, Hagerstrom was seen by the father of one of the little girls shortly after he is alleged to have committed an unseemly act. The father saw the Hollywood man in his car and when he questioned Hagerstrom, the man threw his machine into gear and fled.

The father, learning more about what had occurred from one of the girls who was standing nearby, gave chase and the two machines careened at high speed thru Gardena, turned back to Harbor City and just as the irate parent was overtaking the fugitive his gasoline supply gave out. But the father obtained a license number which he claimed was on Hagerstrom's machine. It was this number that led to his arrest.

"Tip" Leads to Arrest. The father of one of the girls signed the warrant Monday night after alleging that Hagerstrom had committed an offense that comes under the heading of a "morals charge." After being brought here and booked at the police station, the Hollywood man was lodged in jail in default of \$500 bail on each of two counts.

A search was made for him immediately after the warrant was issued but he could not be located by Torrance officers in Hollywood that night. Tuesday evening police were "tipped off" that Hagerstrom was returning to his home and his arrest followed.

Eight Days Left to Get Plates

Only eight more days remain for motorists to obtain their 1939 license plates without penalty. More than 5,500 have paid their fees and received their blue and red plates from the State Department of Motor Vehicles located at 1601 Gramercy, corner of Cabrillo.

Manager Leonard Tristram said yesterday that about 350 motorists are applying daily for their plates here now. The local office is open from 9 a. m. to 5 p. m., every day except Sundays. Saturday, Feb. 4, is the deadline for obtaining plates without extra cost. All those in line at the local office may be accommodated at that local office, Tristram said. Applications may also be sent by mail to the Department of Motor Vehicles at Sacramento but these must be postmarked Feb. 4.

Students Acclaim 90-Day Vacation Bill in Legislature

State senators sponsoring a bill calling for school vacations of not less than 90 days reported this week that the measure was attracting strong support among their school-age constituents. The proposal was offered as a means of extending the California tourist season.

Realtors Oppose County Housing Plan for P. V.

Opposition to the plan of the Los Angeles county Housing Authority to construct low-cost housing projects at Palos Verdes Hills and in North Long Beach was expressed in a resolution filed with the board of supervisors this week by the Torrance-Lomita District Realty Board.

County Has No Power

However, the supervisors have been advised that they have no power whatsoever over the housing authority, although they created it by making the appointments, one from each supervisory district. The machinery that actually set up the National Housing Authority was enacted by the previous Congress, and provided for authorities to be set up by any city or county.

Redondoan May Serve Grand Jury

Eleven women and 17 men, some of them well known citizens, today were under orders to appear Feb. 8 for examination for grand jury service. Their names were drawn Tuesday from a list of 167 names. Among the 30 persons is Mrs. Katherine Turner, Redondo Beach P.T.A. official.

Baccalaureate Sunday Honors 30 Graduates

Graduation week for the 30 members of Torrance high school's Winter class of 1939 begins next Sunday evening with an impressive baccalaureate service in the new high school assembly hall—the first service of its kind to be held in that recently-completed structure.

Class of W'39

Those expected to graduate from Torrance high school next Thursday, Feb. 2, are as follows: Harvey S. Abramson, Frank Carr, Jr., Jane M. Chandler, Virginia E. Crandell, Louis J. John W. J. Gansbery, Ralph L. Gilbert, Gerald G. Grubb, Barbara Jane Hall, Martha Sylvia Hoke, Lorena Jane Long, John William McDonald, Merle M. McHenry, Walter A. Marek, Joseph B. Miles and William J. Nagel.

Redondoan May Serve Grand Jury

Eleven women and 17 men, some of them well known citizens, today were under orders to appear Feb. 8 for examination for grand jury service. Their names were drawn Tuesday from a list of 167 names. Among the 30 persons is Mrs. Katherine Turner, Redondo Beach P.T.A. official.

WIRE, PAPER STOLEN

A roll of wire and another of paper was stolen from the construction site of a new home for Dr. O. E. Fossum at Cota and Carson streets Tuesday, according to a report given police by the contractor, A. J. Marek.

Riviera Would Send Pupils to P. V. School

Public hearing on a petition to annex the Hollywood Riviera area to Palos Verdes elementary school district will be held before the board of supervisors at 10 a. m., on Jan. 31. The area is a part of the Los Angeles city elementary district.

The 28 elementary school pupils in the area have been attending school in Redondo Beach, because the nearest Los Angeles district school at Torrance is too far for them to travel. The Los Angeles board of education has been paying the Redondo district the cost of educating the group.

Mrs. Stone Sells Cafe in L. A.

Mrs. Edna Stone, who purchased the Modern cafe on Vermont avenue, Los Angeles, a few days ago and moved to the city, has returned to Torrance and is residing on Cota avenue. Mrs. Stone sold her cafe to Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Kent of White River, South Dakota, who have friends in Torrance.



CONGRATULATES HERALD STAFF... The gold trophy which Elmer Hosteler of the Intertype Corporation is presenting to Grover C. Whyte, publisher, was awarded The Herald for publishing the best special edition during the year 1938. All daily and weekly newspapers in California were in competition.

First place among all newspapers of California—daily as well as awarded to The Herald for its "Torrance-On-the-Air" special edition of Sept. 15, 1938, last Friday afternoon at the "Awards Luncheon" of the California Newspaper Publishers' association convention in Fresno.

This signal honor, highest of its class in the state, was presented to this newspaper by a committee of judges composed of newspaper publishers. The award itself, a gold cup, suitably engraved, was by the Intertype Corporation, makers of type-setting machines.

Proceedings at the "Award Luncheon" were broadcast over Columbia Broadcasting System Network. Publisher Grover C. Whyte was present in Fresno to receive the tribute and applause of his fellow newspaper men in recognition of the prize effort.

Basis of Award Told. In making the award, Elmer Hosteler of the Intertype Corporation, makers of type-setting machinery and donors of the cup, pointed out that the judges based their decision on: "Originality of conception and execution; size of city; size of staff and shop; cleanliness of makeup and presswork; readability and completeness of content."

Hosteler then went on to describe The Herald's special edition. He cited its 64 pages "many of them in color, 211 local news photos and numerous graphs."

Publisher Is Present. "The Herald's product takes on added interest when it is realized that it was conceived, written and produced entirely by the local staff. Heralding the opening of the new KNX transmission station in Columbia Park, Torrance, California, the special edition was aptly titled "Torrance-On-the-Air" and it was a splendid achievement. "I take great pleasure in presenting this trophy to the editor." (Continued on Page 3-A)

Canned Goods Show at Aud Set for Feb. 7

A two-hour show will be included at the Civic Auditorium, Tuesday evening, Feb. 7, under the auspices of the City Recreation department. Dale Riley announced today. There will be a box at the door where canned goods may be deposited by spectators who wish to contribute to the Torrance Relief Society. Admission will be free, however.

Firemen, Policemen Plan Gala Dinner Here Feb. 1

Firemen who have kept their fingers crossed with excellent results since the dawn of the new year—there have been no fires in Torrance as yet in 1939—are going to hold their digits in that strange position until after Feb. 1. That date is looming importantly in the minds of all firemen and policemen here because they will gather—for the first time with their wives or girl friends—for an inter-departmental dinner at Fire Station No. 1. It will be most embarrassing for the smoke eaters to have a fire break out just when they are comfortably seated and enjoying a fried chicken banquet. Several have expressed the fear that in event they are summoned on an alarm, the coppers would consume all of the fried chicken during their absence. Director John Stroh, head of both departments, said yesterday that about 70 will attend the dinner if all firemen, policemen and special guests show up. Members of the city council and heads of civic departments have been invited to join the party.

Rainfall Total Is 8.63 Inches After Storm

Rainfall measuring 1.55 inches during the weekend added the season's total here to 8.63 inches, according to records being kept by city firemen at Station No. 1. Last year's comparative figure is not available because no measurements were taken here.

Lomita reported 1.35 for the storm, 8.78 for the season to date and 3.41 inches at this time, the best record of fall Saturday caused cancellation of the Torrance-Lomita Merchants' game at the city park diamond Sunday afternoon.

S. W. CITIES PLAN ADV. CAMPAIGN

A number of city officials and civic leaders will attend the dinner meeting of the Southwest District Highways Association tonight at the Palos Verdes Country club. One of the principal business matters to be brought before the association will be a report from Sam Hill, Ingteewood realtor, on the formation of a special group to investigate ways and means of raising an advertising fund to publicize the southwest area.

Originally proposed several months ago by Oscar Willits of the Palos Verdes Estates, this fund of "not less than \$6,000 and not more than \$20,000" will be used, if raised, to promote the district south of Baldwin Hills, west of Western avenue and including the Palos Verdes.

At a preliminary meeting, held at the Torrance Chamber of Commerce last Friday night, Willits served as temporary chairman. He stated that he believed the district could unite as one area for development—residentially and industrially. No one community, he pointed out, has the money to put on an advertising campaign that would really amount to something but by pooling funds, all cities in the southwest area could benefit from a major promotion campaign.

(Continued on Page 2-A)